

Preliminary Alternative #5

Corresponding to Alternative Formulation Strategy 1B,2A,3A,4A - Minimum

Primary Conflict	Approach to Resolve Conflict
Fisheries and Diversions (Conflict 1)	Increase Fish Productivity (1A) Diversion Modification (1B)
Habitat and Land Use/Flood Protection (Conflict 2)	Preserve Existing Land Use (2A) Create Additional Habitat Area (2B)
Water Supply Availability and Beneficial Uses (Conflict 3)	Reduce Critical Export Area Demands (3A) Enhance Delta Supplies as Inflows (3B)
Water Quality and Land Use (Conflict 4)	Managing Quality of Delta Inflow (4A) Manage Instream/In-delta Water Quality (4B)
Minimum or Maximum	

Solution Overview

This minimum alternative focuses on preventing the loss of fish due to entrainment at diversions. The preservation of existing agricultural lands is chosen over increasing habitat area. Increasing export pump capacities are undertaken both to reduce diversion impacts on fish and to reduce the pumping of the of the projects during critical periods without reducing yield. The prevention of upstream pollution is favored over the post-diversion treatment of water to improve quality.

Actions Selected

Habitat - This alternative contains no discretionary actions to improve either aquatic or terrestrial habitat due.

Populations - A small number of actions to reduce the effects on fish of entrainment at diversions are included.

Diversions - A small number of actions to reduce critical export demands, are included in this alternative.

Water Use - No actions to increase the amount of water put to out-of-stream beneficial uses are included.

Water Quality - The quality of water flowing into the Delta will be modestly improved due to a few actions to reduce the pollutants in agricultural drainage.

Land Use/Levees/Flood Protection - No discretionary actions to increase flood protection are included.

Institutional - As a minimal alternative, no institutional guarantees are included.

Preliminary Assessment

No actions to increase fish productivity are included because of the emphasis on reducing the impacts of diversions and the need to preserve existing agricultural land use. These constraints and the minimal approach of this alternative result in few actions to improve the status of endangered fish species, improve Delta ecosystem health, improve water quality, or flood protection. Only negligible improvements could be expected in resolving any of the conflicts.